

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR YVONNE B. BURKE

August 24, 2004

One of the most important methods of fighting the West Nile Virus is through mosquito abatement. Mosquito abatement is conducted in the County by a number of Mosquito and Vector Control Districts. The focus of the districts is to reduce and control the number of vectors, that are able to spread and amplify diseases such as the West Nile Virus.

The districts are presently attempting to identify and clean up all sources of standing water, where mosquitoes may breed. Many of these sources are on private property, which makes it difficult for the districts to find and remove the breeding source. The districts, once they learn of a source, can contact the property owner, request compliance and cite the owner if compliance is not achieved. Ultimately, they can also obtain an administrative warrant to enter the property, if necessary. This process can take substantial time and effort to accomplish.

The City of Los Angeles is working on an ordinance which would help facilitate the removal of mosquito breeding grounds.

Even though we are well into the months of greatest mosquito activity in this year's West Nile Virus spread, we know that the virus will be a problem for several years to come and, thus, any procedural improvements we make now will be very beneficial for the next several years.

**-M-O-R-E-**

MOTION

MOLINA	_____
BURKE	_____
YAROSLAVSKY	_____
ANTONOVICH	_____
KNABE	_____

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**I, THEREFORE, MOVE THAT** the Board of Supervisors instruct the Director of Health Services and the Agricultural Commissioner/Weights and Measures to work with County Counsel to draft an ordinance for introduction at the Board meeting of September 14, 2004, with changes to the County code to facilitate the removal of mosquito breeding grounds. The departments and County Counsel should coordinate with the City of Los Angeles, so that the procedures adopted are as consistent as possible across jurisdictions.

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YBB:PM:jt3(mosquitoabatement)